

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter.

Please amend claims 1-4 and 6-11 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A wrapping apparatus for winding a wrapping film about an article to be wrapped, said wrapping apparatus comprising a film dispenser arranged to revolve along a circular track at a substantially constant velocity about the article to be wrapped, said film dispenser comprising: a frame; supporting elements for supporting a film roll on the frame; a pre-stretching device comprising a first pre-stretching roller rotatably mounted on the frame with bearings at both ends to receive the film from the film roll and a second pre-stretching roller rotatably mounted on the frame with bearings at both ends and disposed in a position parallel to and at a distance from the first pre-stretching roller, which pre-stretching rollers are coupled together via a direct transmission so that their circumferential velocities differ from each other, the pre-stretching of the film thus occurring within the film portion between the pre-stretching rollers as a result of the different circumferential velocities of the pre-stretching rollers; a pendulum roller disposed after the second pre-stretching roller in the direction of film movement to receive the pre-stretched film from the second pre-stretching roller, said pendulum roller being spring-loaded with a spring acting against the drawing direction of the film web; and a deflecting roller mounted by both ends with bearings on the frame, in a position parallel to the pre-stretching rollers and the pendulum roller, the film web coming from the pendulum roller being passed over the deflecting roller to the article being wrapped; wherein the supporting elements are mounted on the frame with bearings permitting free rotation so that the film roll supported by them is freely rotatable; wherein the pre-stretching rollers are mutually engaged and mounted on the frame with bearings so as to be freely rotatable; and that the pendulum roller and the spring force of the spring have been so adapted that the pendulum roller forms between the second pre-stretching roller and the deflecting roller a bend acting as a film supply which contains a varying amount of film, depending on the prevailing draw of the film, to keep the drawing velocity and tension of the film substantially constant at the pre-stretching rollers regardless of the variation in the draw and velocity of the film in relation to the film dispenser that is caused by the shape of the article being wrapped; and wherein the spring pendulum roller, pre-stretching roller and deflecting roller are arranged with respect to each other to keep the film tension substantially

constant regardless of the position of the pendulum roller.

B8 2. (Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the pendulum roller comprises a diverting element which is parallel to the pre-stretching rollers and the deflecting roller, the film being passed over said diverting element, pendulum arms connected to each end of the diverting element transversely to the longitudinal direction of the diverting element, a turn arbor attached to the pendulum arms and pivoted on the frame, and a lever attached to the turn arbor and provided with a fastening element for fastening the spring.

3. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the apparatus comprises limit stop elements for limiting the deflection angle of the pendulum roller to a pre-determined magnitude.

4. (Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein the limit stop elements comprise a first limit stop element, which determines a first extreme position of the pendulum roller, in which the film supply formed by it contains a maximum amount of film, and a second limit stop element, which determines a second extreme position of the pendulum roller, in which the film supply formed by it contains a minimum amount of film.

6. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the maximum deflection angle of the pendulum arm between its extreme positions is 60° ; and that, when the distance between the swing axis of the pendulum roller and the center axis of the deflecting roller is x , then

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- the distance between the center axis of the second pre-stretching roller and the center axis of the diverting element of the pendulum roller equals $3.04 \cdot x$;
 - the distance between the center axis of the diverting element of the pendulum roller and the swing axis of the pendulum roller equals $1.31 \cdot x$;
 - the distance between the center axis of the diverting roller and the center axis of the second pre-stretching roller equals $1.73 \cdot x$; and
 - the distance between the swing axis of the pendulum roller and the center axis of the second pre-stretching roller equals $2.62 \cdot x$.

7. (Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein the distance x between the swing axis of the pendulum roller and the center axis of the diverting roller equals 105.4mm.

8. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the spring is a helical spring connected by one end to the lever and by the other end to the frame.

B9
9. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the first pre-stretching roller, the pendulum roller and the deflecting roller are in contact with the first side of the film while the second pre-stretching roller is in contact with the second side of the film.

10. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the direct transmission between the pre-stretching rollers is a gear transmission comprising a first gear, which is attached to the first pre-stretching roller, and a second gear, which is attached to the second pre-stretching roller.

11. (Twice Amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the transmission ratio of the transmission is of the order of 90%.